

# *Friendly Neighborhood* **SPIDER-MAN**

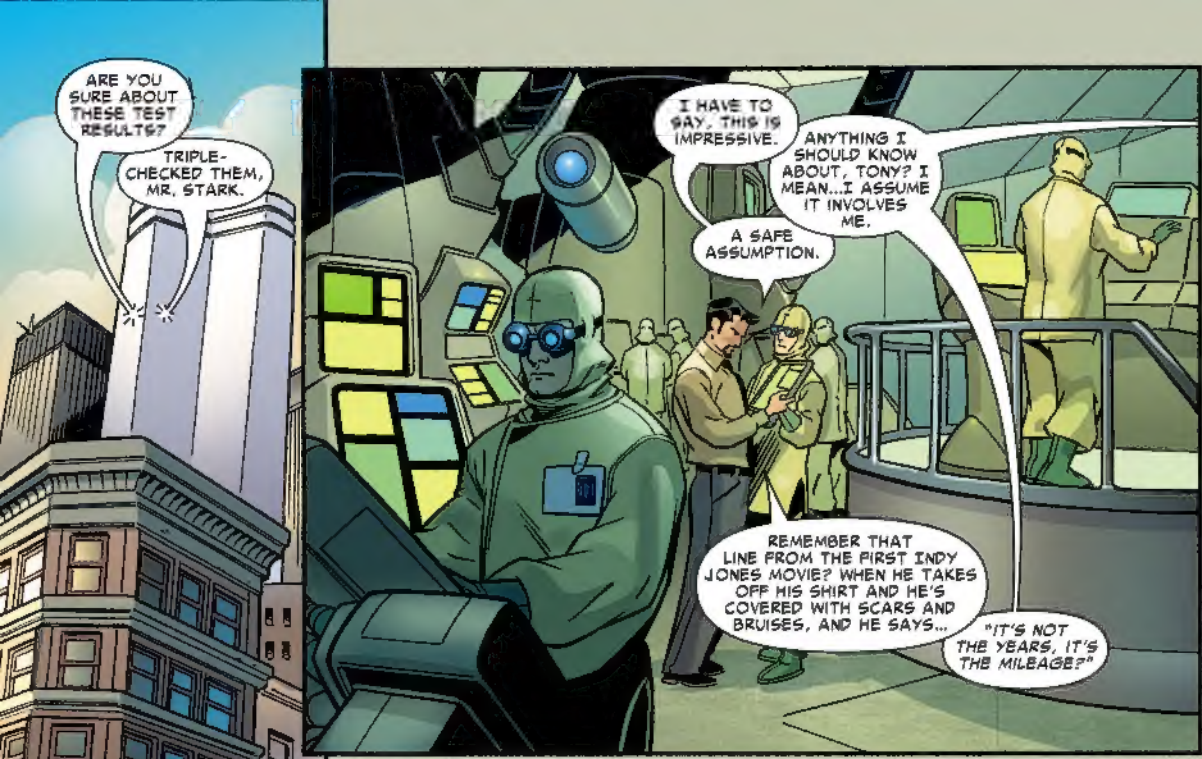


THE  
OTHER

EVOLVE  
OR DIE  
PART 10 OF 12







ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THESE TEST RESULTS?

TRIPLE-CHECKED THEM, MR. STARK.

I HAVE TO SAY, THIS IS IMPRESSIVE.

ANYTHING I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT, TONY? I MEAN...I ASSUME IT INVOLVES ME.

A SAFE ASSUMPTION.

REMEMBER THAT LINE FROM THE FIRST INDY JONES MOVIE? WHEN HE TAKES OFF HIS SHIRT AND HE'S COVERED WITH SCARS AND BRUISES, AND HE SAYS...

"IT'S NOT THE YEARS, IT'S THE MILEAGE?"



EXACTLY, YES.

WELL, ACCORDING TO OUR PRELIMINARY RESULTS...



...YOUR ODOMETER'S BEEN RESET.

SHEDDING YOUR SKIN WAS JUST THE BEGINNING. THIS IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT BUG-RELATED METAMORPHOSIS SINCE GREGOR SAMSA.

I'M TURNING INTO A COCKROACH?

OH, YOU GOT THE REFERENCE. GOOD. AND NO, NOT QUITE.



THE INTERIOR SCARRING FROM YOUR OLD DUODENAL ULCER IS GONE. SO IS THE BULLET WOUND YOU SUSTAINED FROM TRACER.

ABRASIONS GOING BACK YEARS HAVE VANISHED. OBVIOUSLY YOUR EYE GREW BACK, BUT SO DID THE TONSILS YANKED WHEN YOU WERE FOUR.

YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?



LOTS OF ICE CREAM IF THEY HAVE TO COME OUT AGAIN?

OH, BY THE WAY...



# PIRATE BOOTY

PETER  
DAVID  
WRITER

MIKE  
WIERINGO  
PENCILER

KARL  
KESEL  
INKER

PAUL  
MOUNTS  
COLORS

VC'S CORY  
PETT  
LETTERER

MOLLY LAZER &  
AUBREY SITTERSON  
ASSISTANT EDITORS

ANDY  
SCHMIDT  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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AXEL  
ALONSO  
CONSULTING EDITOR

JOE  
QUESADA  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN  
BUCKLEY  
PUBLISHER



...ARE WE  
ALMOST DONE?  
I'M GETTING  
KINDA CHILLY.

FINSTER, INCREASE  
THE THERMOSTAT FIVE  
DEGREES, WOULD YOU?  
MAKE OUR GUEST MORE  
COMFORTABLE.

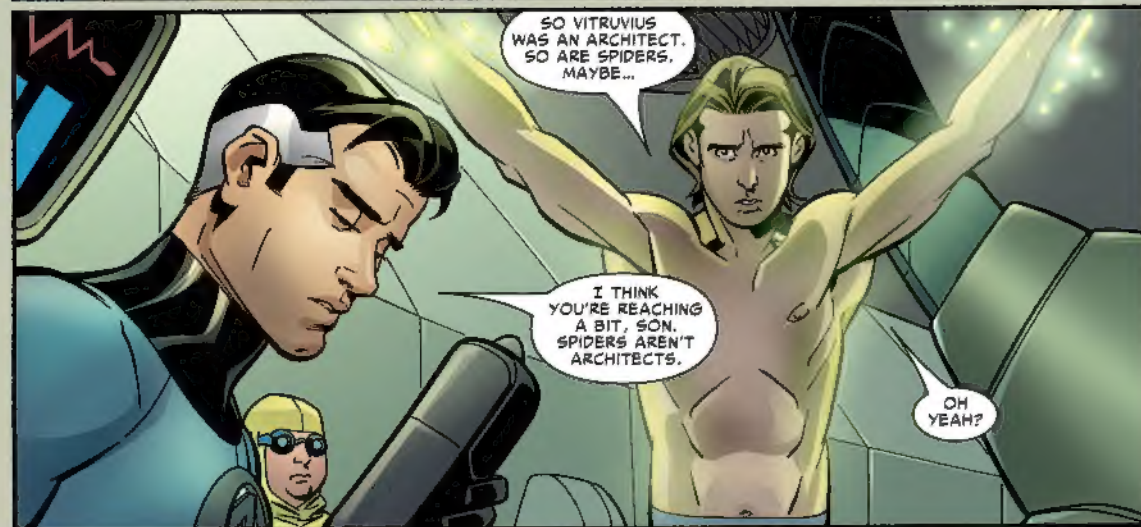
THAT  
WOULD BE "NO,"  
THEN, HUH?

WE'RE JUST  
TRYING TO BE  
THOROUGH. OH, AND  
FINSTER...SCHEDULE  
THE SUBJECT'S  
COLONOSCOPY,  
WOULD YOU?

MY WHAT  
NOW?

KIDDING. YOU'RE  
A RIOT,  
STARK.









"YOU TRY BUILDING A WEB WITH NOTHING BUT WEBBING COMING OUT YOUR BACKSIDE."

"BY THE WAY, UH... I'M NOT, Y'KNOW... GOING TO BE, UHM..."



"EJECTING THREADS OUT YOUR POSTERIOR?"

"WELL... YEAH."

"NOT THAT ANY OF OUR TESTS HAVE DETERMINED, NO."



"THERE ARE SOME...ANOMALIES, TRUE. THEY'RE AMONG THE THINGS WE'RE INVESTIGATING."

"BUT NOTHING QUITE THAT RADICAL."

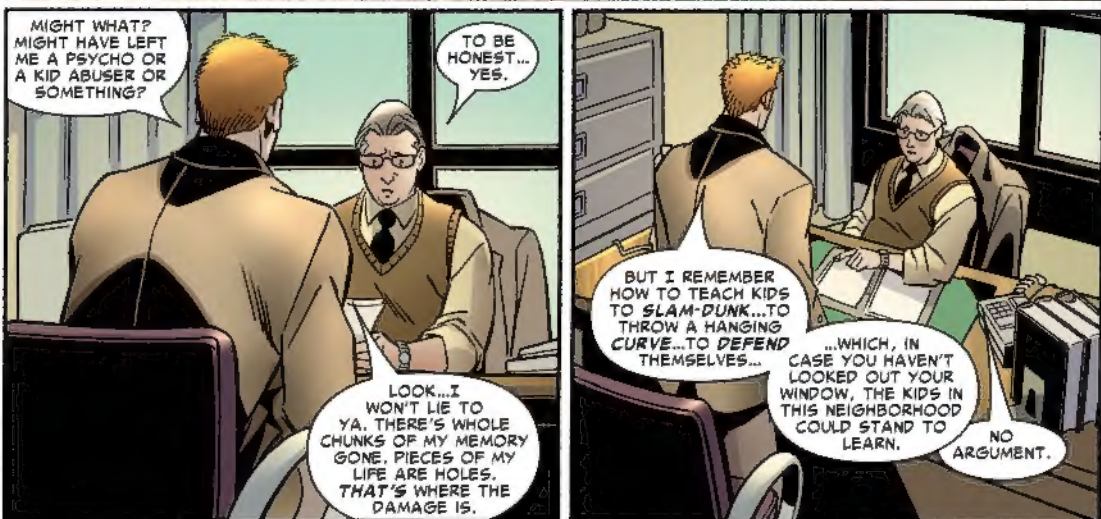
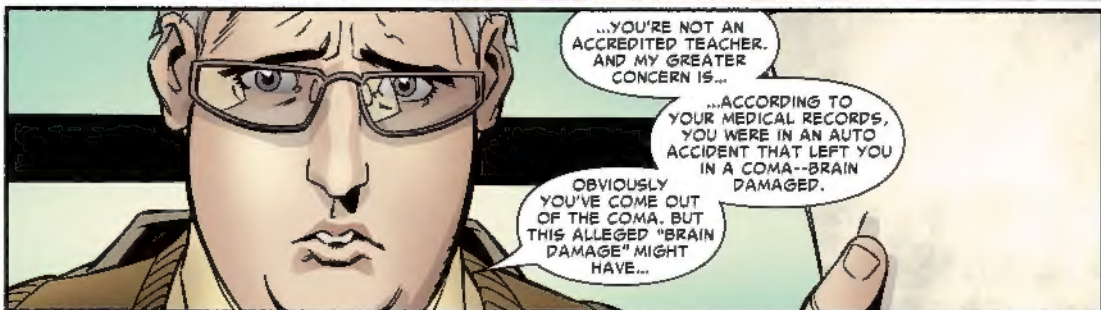


"GOOD. I'D HATE TO HAVE TO REDESIGN MY COSTUME TO INCLUDE A BUTT FLAP."



"FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE, I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WORST-CASE SCENARIOS."









AND, BY THE WAY, NO OFFENSE, BUT LOOKING AT YOUR SCHOOL ATHLETIC TROPHIES...

...YOUR TEAMS HAVE DONE SQUAT FOR YEARS. I CAN TURN THAT AROUND.

MAKE SOME KIDS REAL HAPPY. PARENTS, TOO.

GIMME A SHOT AT HELPING MY OLD SCHOOL, IS ALL I'M ASKING.



VERY WELL. A SHOT IT IS, EUGENE.

PLEASE... FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD...



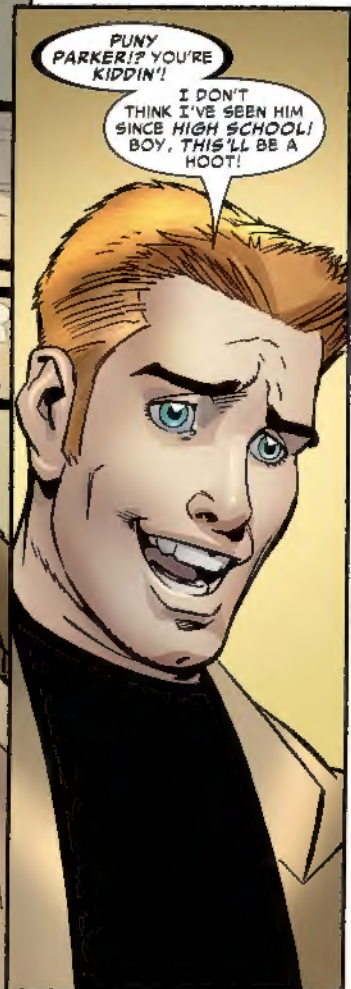
...CALL ME FLASH. FLASH THOMPSON.

"FLASH" IT IS. AND YOU COME FROM ONE CONSCIENTIOUS GRADUATING CLASS, FLASH. ONE OF YOUR OLD CLASSMATES ALSO TEACHES HERE.

DO YOU REMEMBER PETER PARKER?

PUNY PARKER!? YOU'RE KIDDIN'!

I DON'T THINK I'VE SEEN HIM SINCE HIGH SCHOOL! BOY, THIS'LL BE A HOOT!



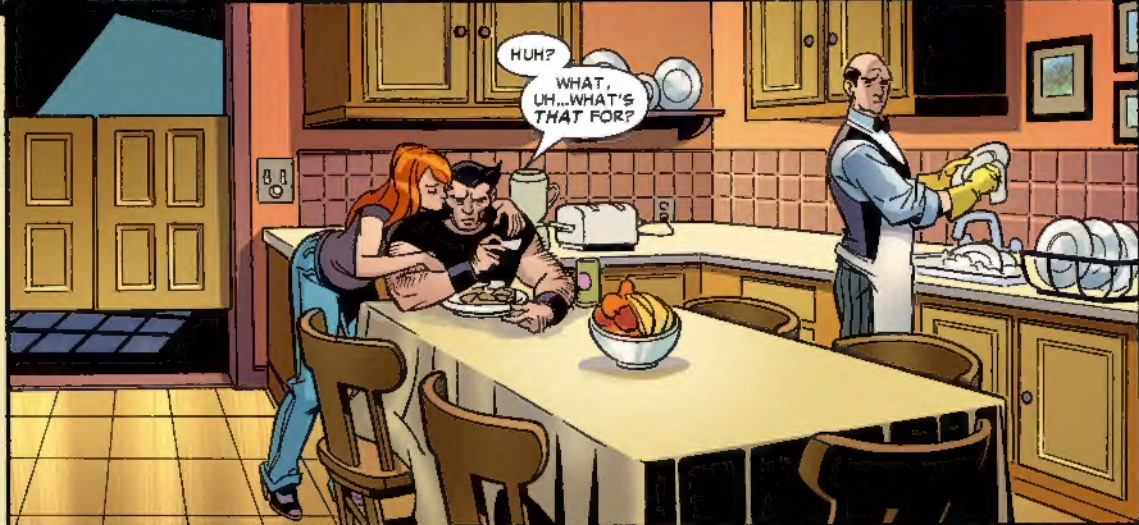




OH, HEY!  
LOGAN! I OWE YOU  
SOMETHING.

HUH?

WHAT,  
UH...WHAT'S  
THAT FOR?



PETER WAS DEAD, I WAS  
IN SHOCK, YOU MADE A  
PASS AT ME, AND I  
SMACKED YOU.

YEAHH...?

YOU KNEW  
I NEEDED TO GET  
ANGRY SO I COULD  
WORK THROUGH THE  
GRIEF, SO YOU MADE  
YOURSELF A TARGET.  
GAVE ME SOMETHING  
TO VENT AT.

YOU WERE  
DOING ME A  
FAVOR, AND I  
DIDN'T EVEN  
REALIZE IT.  
RIGHT?



PRETTY  
MUCH, YEAH.  
YOU MAD?

'COURSE  
NOT.

HOW'D  
YOU FIGURE  
IT OUT?



I REALIZED YOU WOULD NEVER  
REALLY HAVE HIT ON ME SINCE  
YOU MUST KNOW, DEEP DOWN,  
THAT I'D RATHER CUT OFF MY  
HEAD THAN EVER GO  
OUT WITH YOU.

AH.  
GOT IT.

THANKS  
AGAIN.

NOT A PROBL--

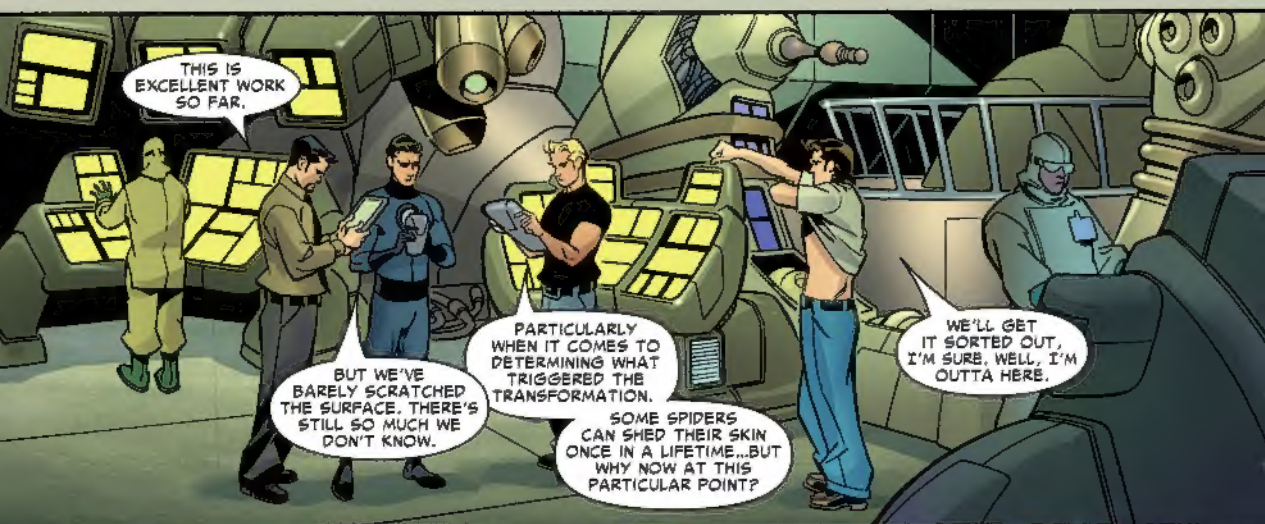


WAIT...WAS  
THAT A COMPLIMENT  
OR A DIS?

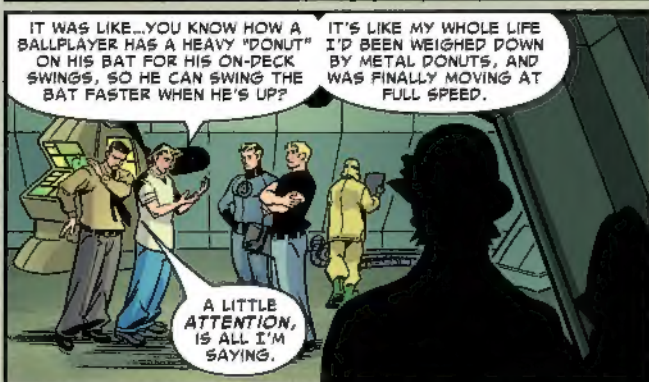
WHO CAN  
TELL WITH YOUNG  
PEOPLE THESE  
DAYS?



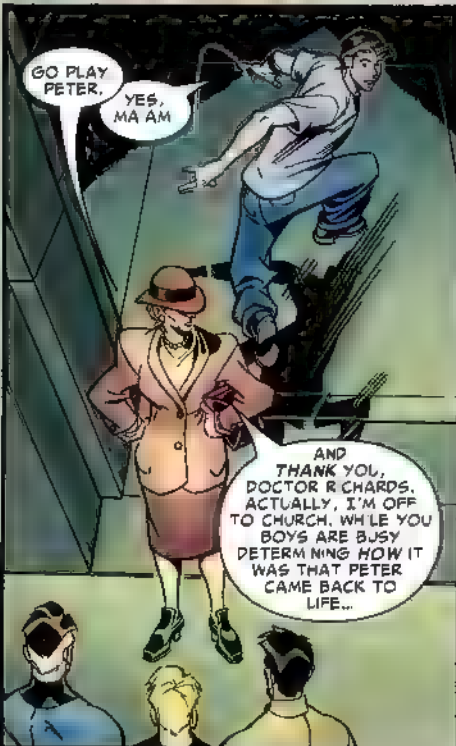




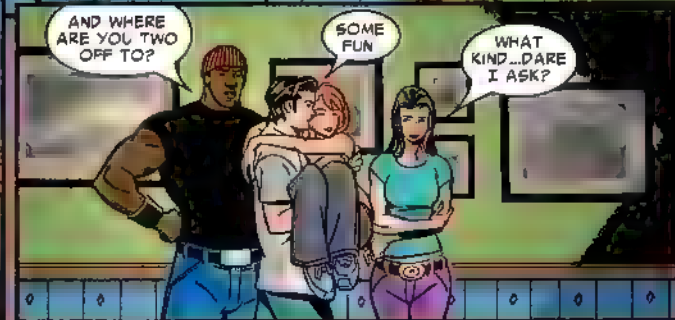










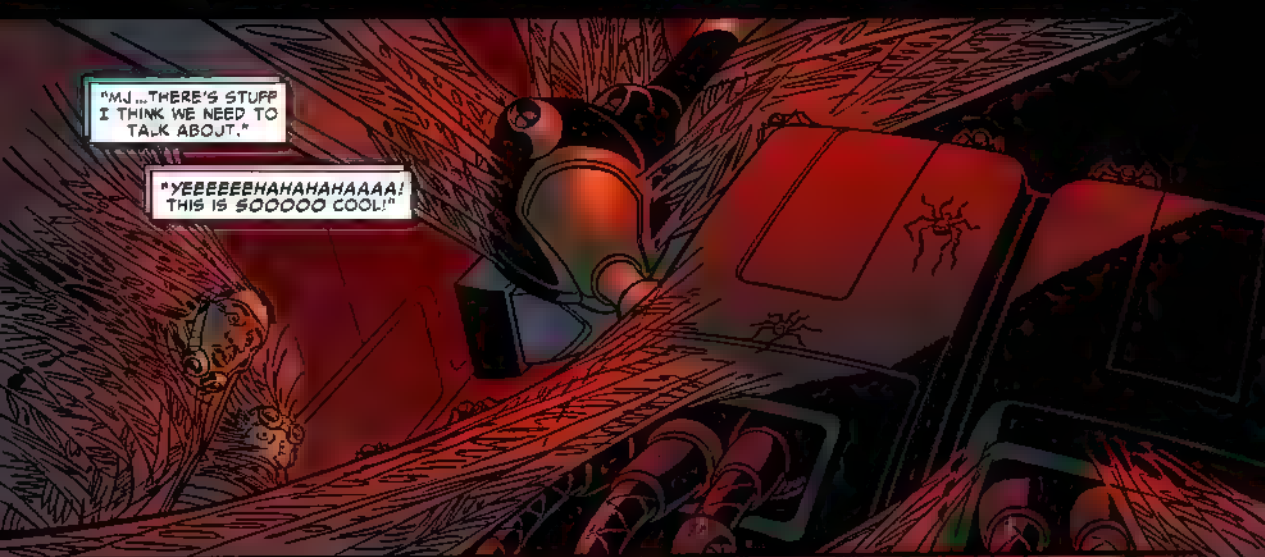




**WHOOOPEEEEE!!**








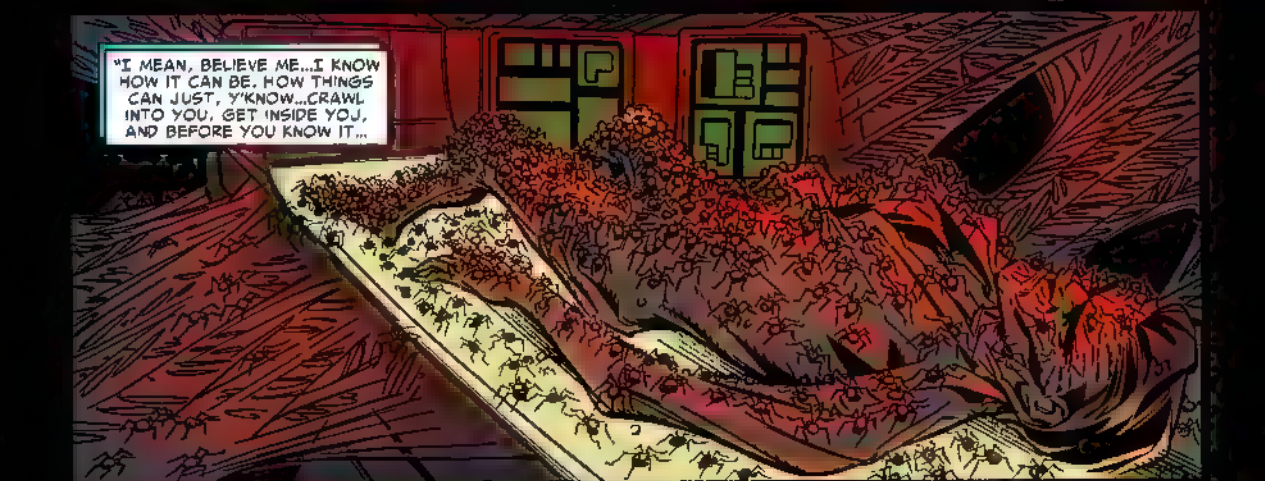
"MJ...THERE'S STUFF  
I THINK WE NEED TO  
TALK ABOUT."

"YEEEEEEHAAAAHAAAA!  
THIS IS SOOOOO COOL!"




"I KNOW IT IS, HON'...BUT I  
FEEL LIKE WE'VE GOTTA CLEAR  
THE AIR, BEFORE WE GET  
WRAPPED UP IN OTHER THINGS "

"OKAY,  
OKAY..."




"I MEAN, BELIEVE ME...I KNOW  
HOW IT CAN BE. HOW THINGS  
CAN JUST, Y'KNOW...CRAWL  
INTO YOU, GET INSIDE YOU,  
AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT..."



"...THEY CAN JUST  
EAT AWAY AT YOU  
UNTIL THERE'S  
NOTHING LEFT "





IT'S JUST THAT...I THOUGHT YOU'D COME TO TERMS WITH ME DOING WHAT I DO...

AND THE NEXT THING I KNEW, YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT ME WANT'NG TO DIE, AND SURVIVOR'S GUILT...AND LIKE YOU WEREN'T COOL WITH IT AT ALL.

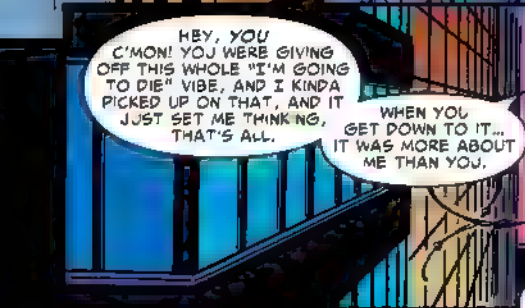
I KNOW.

SO...SO WHICH IS IT?



A LITTLE OF BOTH.

AW, C'MON, MJ...




HEY, YOU C'MON! YOU WERE GIVING OFF THIS WHOLE "I'M GOING TO DIE" VIBE, AND I KINDA PICKED UP ON THAT, AND IT JUST SET ME THINKING, THAT'S ALL.

WHEN YOU GET DOWN TO IT... IT WAS MORE ABOUT ME THAN YOU.


I'M NOT FOLLOWING.

WELL, IT'S...  
UH-OH.



I SEE IT DOWN THERE.

I KNOW, I'M ON IT. SO ANYWAY... MORE ABOUT YOU THAN ME.



IT'S JUST...IT WAS ONE THING WHEN YOU WERE OFF DOING YOUR SPIDER-MAN THING AND I HAD A LIFE OUTSIDE OF IT ALL. A HOUSE, FRIENDS, ALL THAT STUFF.

NOW WE'RE LIVING IN AVENGERS HQ, AND ALL MY FRIENDS ARE SUPERGUYS.

I FIGURED, TO THEM I'M "MRS. SPIDER-MAN." I'VE NO IDENTITY OF MY OWN ANYMORE. I FELT KIND OF PATHETIC, AND, WORSE... THIS IS GONNA SOUND TERRIBLE...





I THOUGHT, F SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU...HOW COULD I SURVIVE IT? I'D LOSE MY HUSBAND...THE WORLD I WAS LIVING IN... EVERYTHING.

I'D BE LEFT WITH NOTHING I'D BE NOTHING.

AND I FELT LOUSY THINKING THAT WAY, BUT I COULDN'T HELP IT.

IT'S OKAY...

OKAY, YOU HAVE ME THERE.



ANYWAY...I WASN'T REALLY MAD AT YOU. I WAS MAD AT ME FOR BEING SCARED AND SELFISH.

I'M AN ACTRESS. I ACTED THAT WAY T-A-DANHH

SURE FELT LIKE YOU WERE MAD AT ME

AND DO YOU STILL FEEL THAT WAY?



NO NOT ANYMORE.

HOW COME?

BECAUSE YOU DIED, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE



YOU DIED, AND I LIVED MY GREATEST FEAR. AND YOU KNOW WHAT?

I WAS SURVIVING IT.









PETER--!



PETER--!!!



pumpkin...  
eater... had a...  
a wife...

ARE YOU  
OKAY???

JEEZ, DON'T  
TELL ME YOU'RE  
DYING AGAIN  
BECAUSE THAT  
WOULD SUCK  
BEYOND...

NO...  
NO, IT'S  
OKAY...



EXCEPT... IT'S NOT  
OKAY SOMETHING'S  
HAPPENING... BACK AT  
STARK TOWER...

WHAT KIND  
OF SOMETHING?  
AND HOW DO YOU  
KNOW?

A BIG  
SOMETHING.  
AND I KNOW  
BECAUSE...

...BECAUSE  
IT'S SPIDER-  
RELATED



OKAY,  
NOW YOU'RE  
JUST FREAKING  
ME OUT.



YOU  
AND ME  
BOTH.

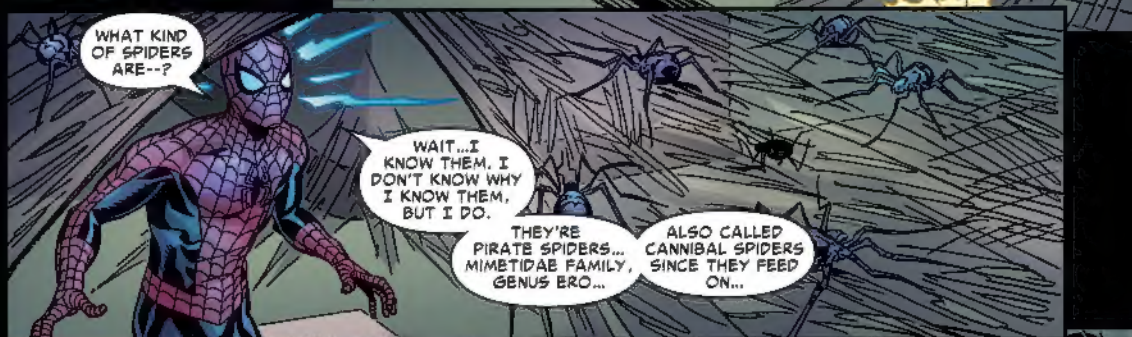
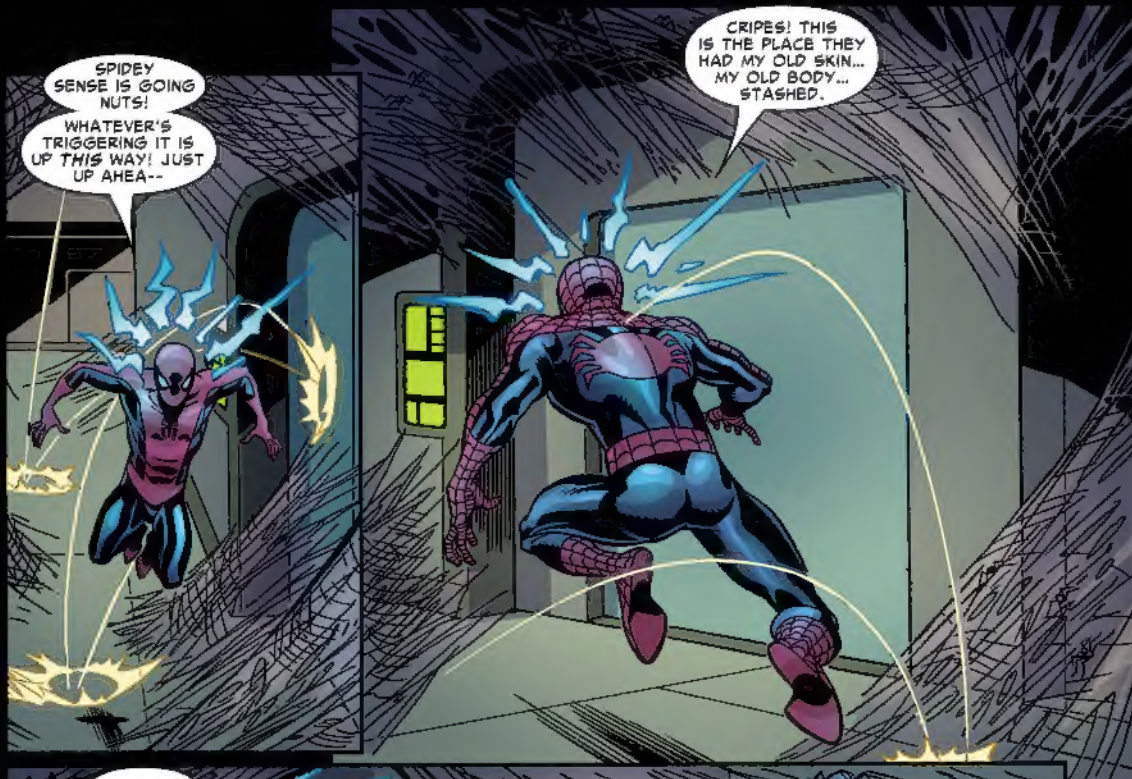
















THEY...  
THEY ATE MY  
CORPSE!!!!

IT'S LIKE  
BEING TRAPPED  
IN A TROMA  
MOVIE!



GET  
AWAY!  
GET AWAY,  
YOU...



WHAT THE--?! IS  
THIS THAT GATEKEEPER  
CREATURE AGAIN...? THE  
ONE WHEN EZEKIEL...

NO, NO, THIS  
IS DIFFERENT.  
I CAN SENSE  
IT.



HOLY...?!

SHAK! SHAK!



WHERE DID THESE  
COME FROM? WHAT'RE THEY...  
STINGERS?

SINCE WHEN  
DO SPIDERS HAVE  
STINGERS??!?

WAIT...I  
THINK I...HAD  
A DREAM ABOUT  
THESE...WHEN...



Y'KNOW  
WHAT? I'LL  
SORT IT OUT  
LATER, RIGHT  
NOW...





**TO BE CONTINUED IN  
MARVEL KNIGHTS SPIDER-MAN #22**